IT'S ADVOCACY AUGUST

Stand up in support of young people and help drive positive change. During Advocacy August, learn how you can become a more effective advocate for mentoring. #MentoringAmplifies

THE KANSAS VOLUNTEER COMMISSION
AWARDS $3,200 FOR 9/11 NATIONAL DAY OF SERVICE
The Kansas Volunteer Commission has awarded $3,200 to four organizations to support the September 11th National Day of Service and Remembrance.

- Cross-Lines Community Outreach
- Flint Hills Volunteer Center
- Rosedale Development Association, Inc.
- Youth Volunteer Corps

The 9/11 National Day of Service and Remembrance is the culmination of an effort initially launched in 2002 by 9/11 family members and support groups, who worked to establish the charitable service day as a forward-looking way to honor 9/11 victims, survivors, and others who rose in service response to the attacks.

In 2009, Congress designated September 11th as a National Day of Service and Remembrance and charged AmeriCorps with supporting this effort across the country. With funding from AmeriCorps, the
Kansas Volunteer Commission (Commission) is working with organizations across Kansas to engage volunteers in tribute projects.

The Commission offers several mini-grants throughout the year. To stay up-to-date and in touch, sign-up for our newsletter on kanserve.org and follow us on Social Media.

AMERICORPS KANSAS PROGRAMS
START

#WEAREAMERICORPS

AmeriCorps Kansas Programs Start

"AmeriCorps Kansas kicks off again this month by welcoming eight returning partners and four new partners", says Kay Emerson, MS, AmeriCorps Kansas Coordinator. "They will be mobilizing individuals from across the state who will pledge to serve as AmeriCorps members. We are grateful to be in partnership with these outstanding organizations who will lead in service to fulfill Kansas' needs in education, public health, employment, and environmental conservation. AmeriCorps Kansas is ready to respond."

#WeAreAmeriCorps!

GIVE BACK KANSAS CHALLENGE
Three Kansas employers have been announced winners of the Give Back Kansas Challenge.

Businesses participating in this year’s challenge were placed into three categories based upon the number of employees they had – small, medium, and large. This year’s winners are:

- Small organization: United Way of Greater Topeka, Topeka.
- Medium organization: TGC Group, Wichita.
- Large organization: Moundridge Manor Inc., Moundridge.

Ten Kansas employers participated in the second annual Give Back Kansas Challenge, hosted by the Kansas Volunteer Commission and Volunteer Kansas.

The challenge ran from April 18-June 10, 2022, to engage Kansans in employer-supported volunteering. Nearly 2,956 volunteer hours were completed at various organizations across Kansas by 790
employees, for an average of 3.74 volunteer hours per employee participant.

“Volunteer Kansas’ goal for the challenge was to have at least ten businesses participate, giving back to their communities in service,” said Nola Brown, executive director of Volunteer Kansas. “We are pleased that the goal was met and look forward to increasing participation next year. The challenge is a quadruple win. The employees who participate reaped the personal reward of helping others. The businesses are better known in their communities for corporate caring. Multiple organizations benefitted from the helping hands of volunteers, and three charities will receive grants to help them achieve their missions.”

Each of the organizations designated a charity to receive a $1,000 grant - on their behalf - from Volunteer Kansas. The United Way of Greater Topeka and Moundridge Manor Inc. will accept the donation as nonprofit organizations and plan to utilize it within their respective service areas. TGC Group has selected Sunlight Children’s Services as its charity of choice.

“Although the Challenge has concluded, the Commission encourages participating employers to maintain their high commitment to volunteerism,” said Jessica Dorsey, executive director of the Kansas Volunteer Commission. “Research of employer volunteer programs has shown a positive impact on employee engagement, organizational commitment, job satisfaction, and retention.”

Pictured Left to Right:
Back row: Riley Dick, Drew Majors, Kathy Wagner, all of TGC Group
Middle row: Nick Esterline, Leslie McClure, Quentin Ellis, Jessica Swink, all of TGC Group. Charity Meizer, Director of Development Sunlight Children Services
First row: Bryn Murphy, CEO of Sunlight Children Services, and Nola Brown, Executive Director of Volunteer Kansas.
The Commission Announces Partners Providing Professional Development Opportunities for Organizations Leveraging Volunteers!

The Kansas Volunteer Commission has partnered with the following Volunteer Manager Groups and Volunteer Centers to provide professional development opportunities to volunteers and/or volunteer-driven programs to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of volunteerism across the state.

- Volunteers In Action Central Kansas
- Flint Hills Volunteer Center
- Ford County RSVP
- Managers of Volunteer Engagement (M.O.V.E.) Topeka
- United Way of Douglas County’s Roger Hill Volunteer Center
- United Way of Greater Topeka’s Volunteer Center

To meet the Commission’s goal to build volunteerism through connections and partnerships in every county in Kansas, all training,
assessments, and coaching will be offered virtually or in a hybrid, in-person/virtual format. These events will be accessible to interested Kansas entities leveraging volunteers. In addition to professional development, participants can expect a 10-15 minute presentation informing them how to apply for and/or access grant funding, training, and technical assistance opportunities made available to eligible entities through the Commission’s work. All professional development opportunities will occur from July 2022 to June 2023.

These events will be announced in this newsletter and posted at KANSERVE.ORG. For more information, please email volunteer@ksde.org.

PROFESSIONAL NETWORKING: M.O.V.E

Interested in Joining a Virtual Professional Networking Group for Volunteer Managers?

M.O.V.E. Ottawa is a FREE professional association open to Volunteer Managers who support volunteerism in Kansas. M.O.V.E. stands for Managers of Volunteer Engagement. Modeled after M.O.V.E Topeka, M.O.V.E Ottawa began meeting monthly, in person, in 2017 to support Volunteer Managers in Anderson, Coffey, Franklin, Linn, Lyon, Miami, Morris, and Osage Counties. Established as a peer networking and learning association...
to promote volunteerism in these communities and provide space for Volunteer Managers to share ideas and learn best practices. However, in 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the group moved to a virtual format. In this virtual format, the group has grown and is now supporting many more Volunteer Managers around the state. The group is excited by this growth and would like to formally invite other Volunteer Managers to learn and share their expertise and professional experiences.

To receive a meeting agenda in advance please email volunteer@ksde.org. Meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of the month from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.

To attend the next M.O.V.E. Ottawa meeting, please join the Zoom Meetings during the standard, scheduled times by clicking this link:

https://ksde.zoom.us/j/88065761415

Meeting ID: 880 6576 1415

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

The Mission of Managers of Volunteer Engagement (M.O.V.E.) is to build and engage a network of volunteer managers and cultivate a volunteerism culture.

**M.O.V.E. Topeka**

Meets the Third Wednesday of Each Month

**Wednesday, September 21, 2022**

9:00 to 10:00 AM

To learn more, please visit [www.moveks.org](http://www.moveks.org).

Or reach out via [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com).

**M.O.V.E. Ottawa**

Serving Anderson and Franklin Counties

Meets the Fourth Thursday of Each Month

**Thursday, September 22, 2022**

9:00 to 10:00 AM

To learn more, please email united.way.of.franklin.co@gmail.com
Volunteer Managers Meeting
United Way of Douglas County
Meets the 2nd Tuesday of Odd Numbered Months
Tuesday, September 13, 2022
9:00 to 10:00 AM
To learn more, please email volunteer@unitedwaydgco.org

Volunteer Managers Network
United Way of the Plains
2022 Dates T.B.D.
12:00 to 1:00 PM
To learn more, please email Abel Frederic afrederic@unitedwayplains.org

NOTE: The above dates, times, and locations are subject to change.

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**Kansas Volunteer Commission**
*Serve • Engage • Empower*

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